

TOWN/COMMERCIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

Thursday, May 28, 2009; First Floor Meeting Room, Amherst Town Hall

Members present: Leslie Ariola, Jeffrey Blaustein, Yuri Friman, Michael Jacques, Barry Roberts, Tony Maroulis, Mark Parent  
Others present: Stephanie O’Keeffe, Select Board; Jonathan Tucker, Planning Director  
Not present: Jeffrey Krauth, Nina Wishengrad

The meeting came to order at 5:48 p.m.

1. Acceptance of minutes from April 30, 2009
2. ZBA Permit review meetings – observers’ reports: Blaustein attended first hour of ZBA meeting concerning sign for the Jewish Community of Amherst.

There was extensive discussion about ZBA and perception that some discussions at their meetings go beyond their purview.

There was discussion of next steps to determine if the Amherst ZBA differs from other towns’ ZBAs in the running of the meeting and interpretations of the procedure to be followed.

A history of the ZBA and its role in town was provided.

There was further discussion of ways to develop efficiently run meetings that do not bring personal opinions of ZBA members regarding style into consideration.

3. Town meeting update

Jonathan Tucker provided an update on the first phase of Town Meeting and an overview of the state of the budget.

4. Old Business – Master plan

Jonathan Tucker provided an overview of the state of the draft Master Plan which has been submitted by the Master Plan Committee to the Planning Board. Some issues relate to commerce in Amherst, and the suggestion was made that TCRC look at those parts and provide comments.

5. Next meeting July 30, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey D. Blaustein